

Process and catalyst for the preparation of bisphenols

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Abstract

Process for the preparation of bisphenols and a catalyst for the said preparation. In its first aspect, the invention relates to a water-insoluble cation-exchange resin bearing a multiplicity of pendent sulphonic acid

groups and a multiplicity of sulphonic acid sites bonded ionically to a group of formula:  in which the mercaptomethyl group (-CH₂-SH) is in an ortho, meta or para position. This resin is useful as catalyst for the reaction of a phenol with a ketone to produce a bisphenol. In its second aspect, the invention relates to the production of bisphenol A by condensation of phenol and acetone in the presence of the said resin.

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